

Rebuilding our economy and putting Sacramentans back to work is my number one priority. In light of State and local budget cuts, ensuring the federal government is responsive to our region's needs has never been more important to me. My commitment is reflected in the legislation my colleagues in the House of Representatives and I have considered and continue to work towards enacting a long-term economic strategy in order to move America in a New Direction. Democrats moved quickly but deliberately at the beginning of the 111th Congress to pass a bold plan to jumpstart our economy and provide short-term help to those hurt most by the economic recession while providing long-term solutions that will build a new foundation for our economy for years to come.

*Congresswoman Matsui speaks on the House floor urging the Republican-led 112th Congress to take up legislation to create jobs*

But the set of economic conditions before us are greater than anything since the Great Depression, and the road to recovery is long. We need to create jobs and ensure that proper financial oversight is conducted so that the abuses that severely damaged our economy are never repeated. Our economic troubles did not come about overnight and we will not be able to fix them overnight. Each day I serve as your Representative, I am working to make progress to put Americans back to work and push our economy forward for American families, and making targeted investments in the areas that will grow our economy like clean energy, education, health care and infrastructure.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, enacted in the first month of President Obama's term, helped to jumpstart our economy. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates more than 1.6 million jobs have been created or saved. Another 2-3 million are estimated to come. It gave 95% of American workers a tax cut, and begin to rebuild America's road, rail, and water infrastructure, with unprecedented accountability.

*Congresswoman Matsui Speaks in Support of the HIRE Act, one of several jobs packages passed by the Democratic-led 111th Congress to help put Americans back to work*

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, over 863,000 private sector jobs were created in 2010 alone, thanks in part of the Recovery Act. During the 8 years of the Bush Administration, 673,000 private sector jobs were lost. I am working every day to pass legislation that reverses the failed policies of the past and gets Americans back to work.

